

## Message Text

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ACTION VO-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 FBIE-00 INSE-00

NSAE-00 SSO-00 SMS-01 SS-15 CA-01 EB-08 CPR-02

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6642

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 21724

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CGEM, BGEN

SUBJECT: VISAS ODD SOVIET TRADE OFFICIALS IN LIGHT OF  
CRAWFORD RELEASE

SUMMARY: ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT DEPARTMENT WILL BE  
CONSIDERING RESUMPTION OF VISA ISSUANCE FOR KAMA  
PURCHASING COMMISSION EMPLOYEES, THE EMBASSY RECOMMENDS  
THAT ONE EMPLOYEE SEEKING TO RETURN TO THE UNITED  
STATES BE DENIED A VISA AS RETALIATION FOR DECISION  
OF MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE TO DENY FRANCIS JAY  
CRAWFORD A VISA TO RETURN TO THE USSR.

1. EVEN AS CRAWFORD WAS AWAITING DEPARTURE AT  
SHEREMET'YEVO AIRPORT, A MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE  
OFFICIAL WAS AGAIN RAISING WITH US AT A USCO RECEPTION  
THE QUESTION OF VISAS FOR THOSE KAMA PURCHASING  
COMMISSION OFFICIALS WHOSE TRAVEL TO THE UNITED STATES  
HAS BEEN DELAYED. OFFICIAL ASKED "ADVICE" OF ECONOMIC/  
COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR AS TO WHEN THE VISAS MIGHT BE  
EXPECTED AND WHETHER SOVIET FAMILIES SHOULD PUT THEIR  
CHILDREN IN RUSSIAN SCHOOLS.

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2. WHILE NO "ADVICE" WAS GIVEN, WE ASSUME THAT THE  
DEPARTMENT WILL BE CONSIDERING AUTHORIZING THE  
ISSUANCE OF THESE VISAS NOW THAT CRAWFORD IS FREE  
FROM THE SOVIET UNION. AT THE SAME TIME, HOWEVER, WE  
BELIEVE THAT NOTE SHOULD BE TAKEN OF THE FACT THAT  
THE U.S. BUSINESS COMMUNITY IN MOSCOW HAS BEEN REDUCED  
BY CRAWFORD'S DEPARTURE, PARTICULARLY SINCE THE CHIEF

OF PROTOCOL OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE TOLD THE REPRESENTATIVE OF INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER (CHELLMAN) THAT CRAWFORD WILL NOT BE GIVEN A VISA SHOULD HE EVER WISH TO RETURN (SEPTTEL). WE BELIEVE THAT THE DEPARTMENT ACCORDINGLY, SHOULD SELECT ONE KAMA PURCHASING COMMISSION OFFICIAL WHO WAS APPLYING FOR RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES AND DENY HIS VISA IN REPRISAL FOR THE ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION TAKEN AGAINST CRAWFORD BY THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE. WHILE THE DEPARTMENT IS IN BETTER POSITION THAN WE TO JUDGE WHICH OF THE KAMA EMPLOYEES SHOULD BE SELECTED, WE WOULD WELCOME AN OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT ON THE CHOICE BEFORE IT IS MADE. SINCE SOVIETS WOULD PRESUMABLY BE WILLING TO ACCEPT AN I-H EMPLOYEE IN CRAWFORD'S PLACE, SHOULD I-H WISH TO PUT ONE HERE, WE BELIEVE THAT KAMA SHOULD BE PERMITTED TO REPLACE THE INDIVIDUAL DENIED REENTRY INTO THE UNITED STATES, BUT ONLY ON CONDITION THAT THE SOVIETS STATE THAT ANOTHER I-H OFFICIAL VICE CRAWFORD WOULD BE WELCOME.

3. WE RECOGNIZE THAT SOVIETS WILL ARGUE THAT KAMA NEEDS ALL OF ITS EXPERIENCED EMPLOYEES, AND MORE, TO PERFORM ITS BUSINESS IN THE UNITED STATES. IN THIS CONTEXT, IT MIGHT BE USEFUL TO NOTE THAT THE DEPUTY CHIEF OF THE MFT FOR AMERICAN COUNTRIES (MELNIKOV) TOLD THE E/C COUNSELOR DURING CONVERSATION DESCRIBED ABOVE THAT SOVIETS WILL CUT NON-AGRICULTURAL PURCHASES FROM U.S. IN CONFIDENTIAL

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1978 BY TEN OR FIFTEEN PERCENT AGAINST 1977. SUCH PREDICTIONS STRENGTHEN THE IMPRESSION THAT KAMA IS OVERSTAFFED. GARRISON

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## Message Attributes

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